

1) An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Specification, Page 1, below The Title, enter:

- This application is a 371 of PCT/EP03/13352 filed on 27 November 2003 -. *HL*
1-30-09

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Claim 3, line *3*, replace phrase "can be set" with - is set -.

2) The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance is that the cited prior art does not show:
an apparatus that includes a cooling system configured to transport a cooling fluid to cool an electrode, the cooling system having means for controlling a cooling power variably as a function of time and location in a plurality of selectable regions of the electrode (**claim 1**); a melting unit that includes a cooling system configured to transport a cooling fluid to cool an electrode, the cooling system having a controller that controls a cooling power variably as a function of time and location in a plurality of selectable regions of the electrode (**claim 35**); an apparatus including an electrode having a plurality of selectable regions and a cooling system configured to transport a cooling fluid to cool the plurality of selectable regions, the cooling system having a controller configured to control a cooling power of the cooling system in a plurality of selectable regions variably (**claim 37**).